

Holly Co-op

(Continued from Page A1) left haulers with no place to bring milk during down times.

The spectre of a market closing or changing its source for obtaining milk always hovers over farmers. The Holly Co-op should give Inter-State and MCMP members some hedge against either possibility.

Thursday's open house was not the first open house to be held at the plant. But, it was the first where Holly Co-op officials could actually tell guests they were looking

at a fully functional dairy processing plant.

The Holly plant was plagued with a number of delays in start-up, and even after operations commenced an explosion at the plant put the brakes on operations.

Still to be ironed out are the details of a tertiary treatment system for sewerage and other waste water from the plant. This treatment station should be completed late in 1980 or early in 1981.

More noteworthy in the short run is the readiness in Holly Co-op to handle the

traditional spring flush of milk. The big production push in the next three to four months should give the Holly plant its first major, sustained workout.

Right after Christmas, the plant's managers set the facility to work full-time and the plant's machinery and personnel responded well.

But, in unforeseen complications, the plant should be instrumental in moving milk from 4000 dairy farms to a variety of markets.

Between farm and market, the Holly plant will take up to 20,000 gallons milk per hour from haulers' rigs, and process it into skim milk powder at 8000 pounds per

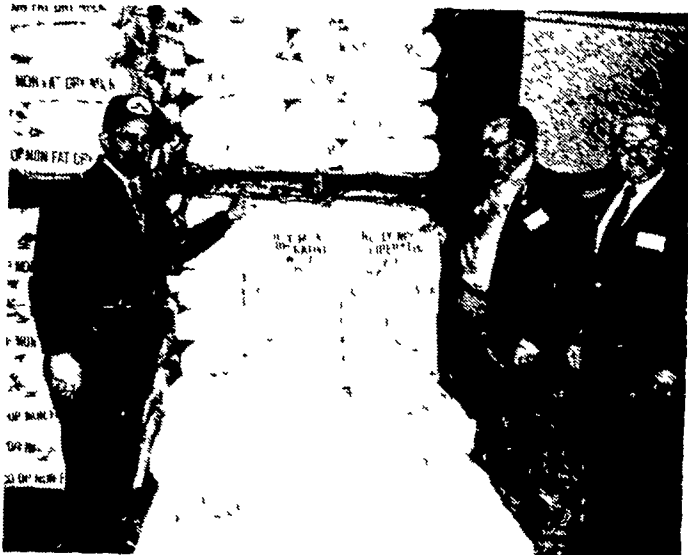
hour, whole milk powder at 7500 pounds per hour; or butter at 4400 pounds per hour.

The warehousing area can store tons of processed powder. The butter storage can handle 700,000 pounds in 68 pound blocks.

There's room for the farmer's raw product, too. Tank Alley has capacity of

five 50,000 gallon whole milk silos, two 25,000 gallon cream silos, two 15,000 gallon buttermilk silos, and a 10,000 gallon condensed milk silo.

The entire plant should be one more step toward marketing security for members of both partner co-ops.



Andrew Marvin, Inter-State's districts 5 and 7 fieldman, joined Pa. Deputy Secretary of Agriculture Chester Heim and Md. Ag Department's Franklin Burris, in the warehouse at Holly Co-op's open house.

Crop reporters to survey

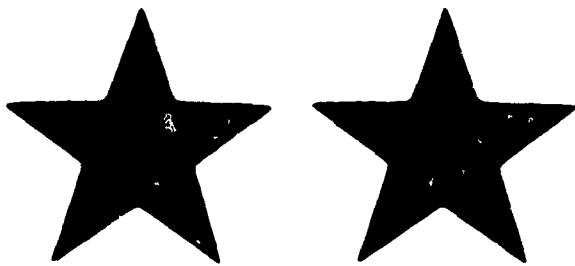
HARRISBURG — Enumerators from the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service will be contacting dairy farmers to determine milk production costs for 1979.

As part of a nationwide survey in March, 190 Pennsylvania dairy farmers will be questioned concerning herd inventories, feeding,

manure handling, milk systems, forage production and feed storage facilities.

The state says current information on milk production expenditures is vital to determine the economic well-being of dairy farmers as related to other producers in the agricultural sector.

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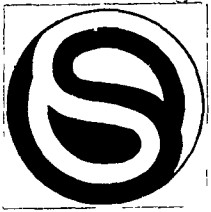
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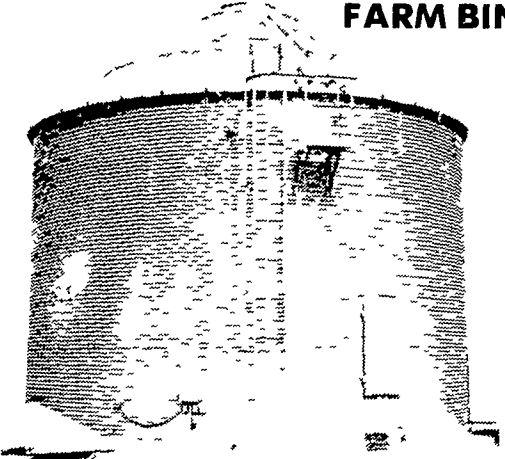
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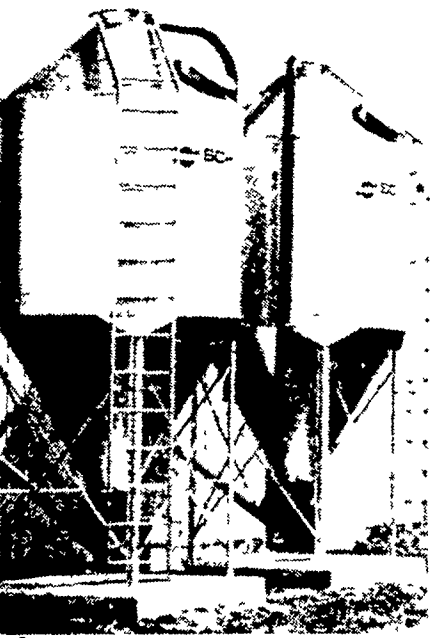
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